

REMARKS

Claims 1-26, 28-34 and 36-37 are pending in the application. Claims 27 and 35 have been cancelled by previous amendment.

Claims 1-26, 28-34 and 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Shi (6,507,740) in view of Frank et al. (RE 37,757)(hereinafter Frank). In addition, claims 1-26, 28-34 and 36-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103 are rejected as being unpatentable over Shi in view of Frank, and further in view of Balachandran (5,594,943).

In the Office Action its admitted that Shi does not explicitly disclose a method of stopping the hand-off process of the MS to another wireless BS when a frequency (number) of handoffs has exceeded a predetermined frequency but noted that Frank at col. 8, lines 4-15 does show such method.

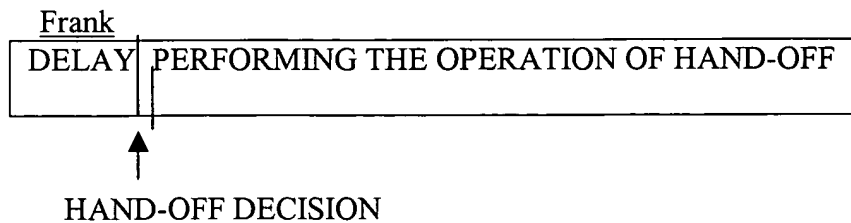
Franks suggests in column 8, lines 4-15 and Fig. 4, that hand-off decisions are delayed in order to minimize the number of hand-offs that might occur.

In contrast to Frank suggesting the delaying of hand-offs applicant's claim recites: a handoff limiting unit which stops said processing for handing off said mobile station to said another wireless base station when a frequency of handoffs of said mobile station to said another wireless base station exceeds a predetermined frequency.

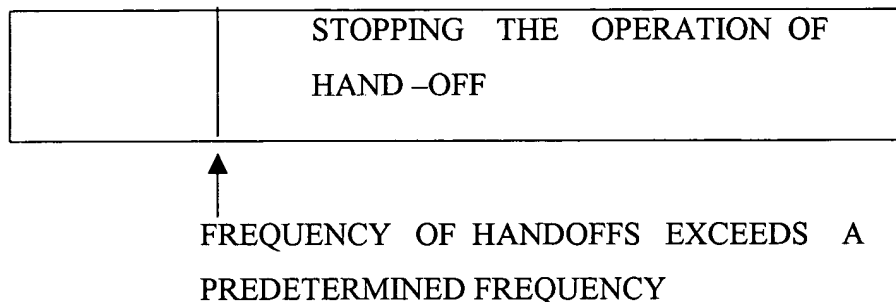
Frank does not disclose that a handoff limiting unit stops the processing for handing off the mobile station to another wireless base station when a frequency of handoffs of the mobile station to the other wireless base station exceeds a predetermined frequency as recited in claim 1 of the present claimed invention.

Each of applicant's independent claims 4, 7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22 and 30 include at least this distinguishing feature.

As described above the differences between the present claimed invention and Frank include the following:



Present invention



Balachandran teaches a method and apparatus for efficient handoffs by mobile communication entities, in which primary and secondary thresholds are defined to determine when a link should be handed off and which channels of the system are appropriate candidates to attempt to scan to track a hop or determine when to initiate a handoff.

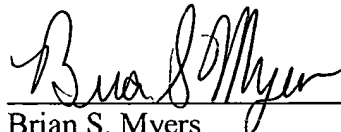
However Balachandran also fail to disclose the hand-off limiting unit of the present claimed invention. Balachandran does not teach a handoff limiting unit which stops said processing for handing off said mobile station as claimed in applicant's claim 1.

In addition to the above distinguishing features found in each of applicant's independent claims, each of applicant's dependent claims includes additional features which are different from the combination of cited references. For at least the foregoing reasons it is respectfully submitted the rejections should be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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Docket No.: FUJR 17.355 (100794-11451)
BSM:fd